DC

715 | $1.95 US $2.75 CAN £1.25 UK

SUPERMAN IN ACTION COMICS

MICHELINIE, DWYER & RODIER

1995 42

Rodier

PARASITE!™

0 70992 30410 3

METROPOLIS, AFTER HOURS AT THE QUEENSLAND PARK HEADQUARTERS OF S.T.A.R. LABS.

STAR

I--I'VE BEEN WORKING TOO HARD. YES, THAT *MUST* BE IT!

MUST'VE HAD AN "EPISODE"! A BLACKOUT!

DR. TORVAL FREEMAN

O-OR MAYBE, A WAKING DREAM!

HORRIBLE... DREAM!

BETTER SPLASH SOME WATER ON MY FACE... CLEAR MY HEAD BEFORE ANY OF THE NIGHT SHIFT SEES ME!

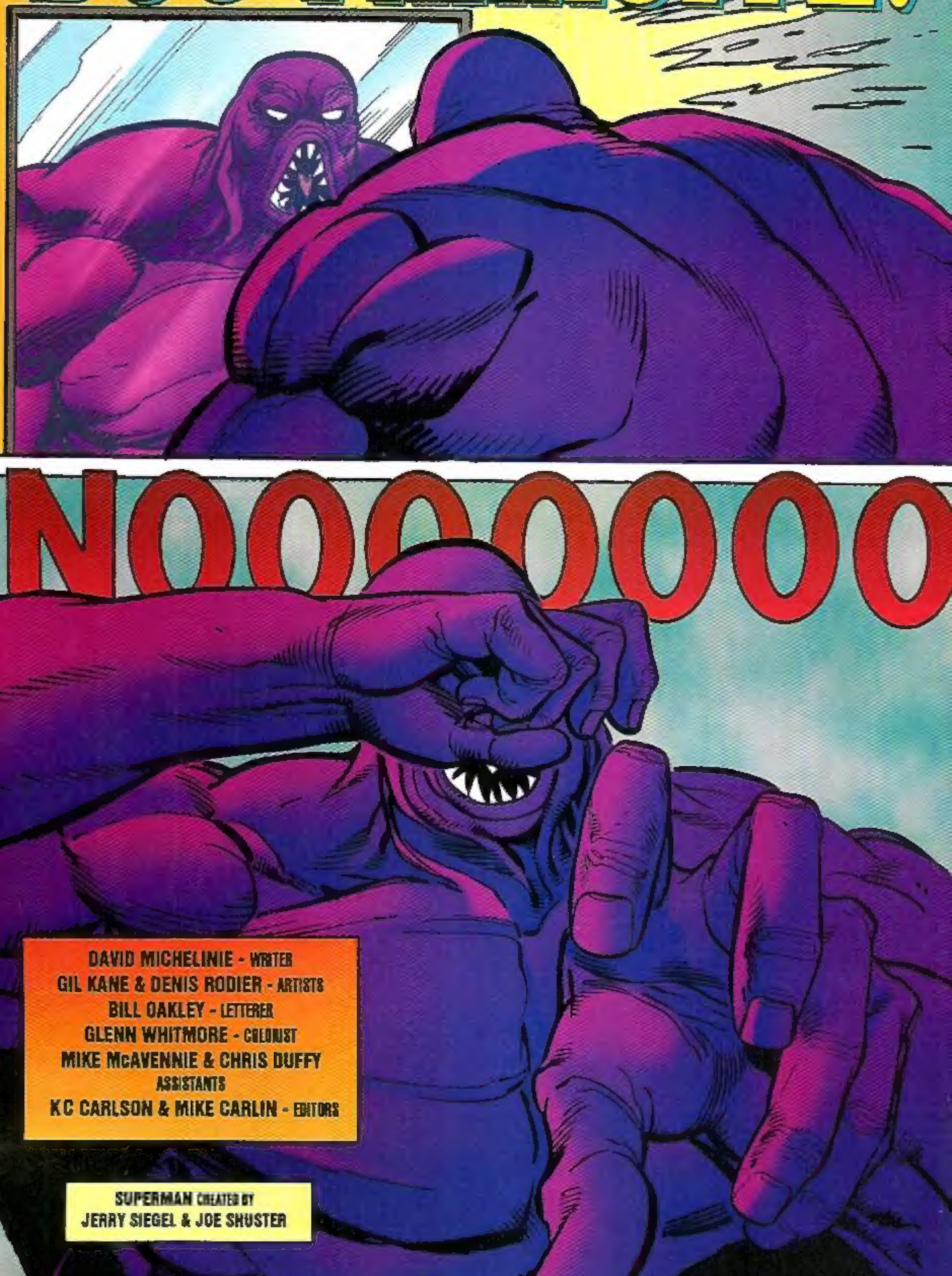
AFTER ALL, I'M AN *IMPORTANT* MAN! I'M HEAD OF THE BIO-EXPERIMENT DIVISION!

I'M--

CLICK!

ACTION COMICS 715, November, 1995. Published monthly by DC Comics, 1700 Broadway, New York, NY 10019. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to ACTION COMICS, DC Comics Subscriptions, P.O. Box 0528, Baldwin, NY 11510. Annual subscription rate $23.40. Canadian subscribers must add $6.00 for postage and GST. GST # is R125921072. All foreign countries must add $8.00 for postage. U.S. funds only. Copyright© 1995 DC Comics. All Rights Reserved. All characters featured in this issue, the distinctive likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of DC Comics. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. For advertising space contact: East Coast, Tom Ballou, (212) 636-5520; Midwest, The Graffiti Group (312) 539-5590; West Coast, The Berman Company (818) 865-9706. Printed on recyclable paper.
Printed in Canada.
DC Comics: A division of Warner Bros.--A Time Warner Entertainment Company

DOC PARASITE!



DAVID MICHELINIE - WRITER
GIL KANE & DENIS RODIER - ARTISTS
BILL OAKLEY - LETTERER
GLENN WHITMORE - COLORIST
MIKE McAVENNIE & CHRIS DUFFY
ASSISTANTS
KC CARLSON & MIKE CARLIN - EDITORS

SUPERMAN CREATED BY
JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER

NOOOOOOOOOO!

IT WOULD APPEAR THAT DR. FREEMAN HAS DISCOVERED HIS NEW... CONDITION.

S.T.A.R. LABORATORIES

STAR

YOUR SKILLS AT MANIPULATION ARE IMPRESSIVE, LUTHOR --EVEN WHEN YOU'RE ON THE RUN FROM THE *LAW*.

THE WAY YOU HAD EXPERIMENTS ON THE PARASITE *ALTERED*, TO BRING ABOUT THE CURRENT SITUATION--

--WAS SIMPLY *DELICIOUS*.

"*MASTER*"? HARDLY! I MADE A *DEAL*--

OUR MUTUAL *MASTER* WILL BE PLEASED!

--AND I'M MERELY KEEPING MY *END* OF IT!

VROOOOOM!

DR. TORVAL FREEMAN

DR. FREEMAN?

TOR?

ARE YOU OKAY?

I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMEONE CRY OUT--

URSULA! H-HELP ME!

GOOD LORD!

STAY BACK! G-GET AWAY FROM ME!

PLEASE! DON'T BE AFRAID--!

IT'S ALL RIGHT! IT'S... ALL...

...AAAAHHHH!

*

I FEEL... STRONG! MORE ALIVE THAN EVER BEFORE! BUT--

--URSULA?

MY GOD! W-WHAT HAVE I DONE? WHAT...

...WHAT HAVE I BECOME?

I--I'M HIM! I-IT WASN'T A DREAM! SOMEHOW--

SANDRA... LITTLE ERIC... I HAVE TO GET BACK, FOR YOU!

HAVE TO BECOME HUMAN, BEFORE I KILL AGAIN!

C'MON, DOC--

WHA--?

--I'VE TURNED INTO THE PARASITE!

BUT I CAN'T STAY THIS WAY!

--YOU KNOW YA WANTED IT!

ELSEWHERE OVER METROPOLIS...

NOT EXACTLY HOW I *WANTED* TO SPEND MY EVENING!

FLYING ALL THE WAY TO *ICELAND* ON WHAT TURNED OUT TO BE A WILD GOOSE CHASE!*

*SEE MAN OF TOMORROW #2.

REPORTS HINTED THAT'S WHERE *LUTHOR* WAS HIDING OUT! BUT IT WAS ALL A BIG--

--WASTE--

--OF--

--TIME!

AH, THE MARX BROTHERS ARE ON AMC!

MAYBE I'LL EVEN INDULGE IN A LITTLE HAAGEN-DAZS LATER.

FEELS GREAT TO RELAX!

I SCANNED METROPOLIS ON MY WAY IN, AND THE CITY SEEMS QUIET. FOR ONCE, I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT--

"--DEALING WITH A CRISIS!"

THAT VOICE! I-IN MY HEAD! WHO ARE YOU?

NAME'S RUDY-- RUDY JONES. BUT TIL YOU CAME ALONG, DOC, I WAS THE PARASITE!

B-BUT HOW? HOW DID I... BECOME YOU?

HEY, YOU'RE THE ROCKET SCIENTIST! ONLY THING I CAN FIGURE--

"IS THAT THE STUFF S.T.A.R. WAS DOIN' TO ME SCREWED THINGS UP! IN THE PAST, I COULD REJECT THE MINDS O' PEOPLE WHOSE ENERGY I ABSORBED!

REALLY?

WOULD I LIE? ANYWAY--

--I FIGURE SINCE YOU'RE SO STRONG...!

YES... POWERFUL!

NAH, I MEAN MENTALLY! CAUSE YOU GOT SUCH A BIG EGO, I CAN'T PUSH YOU OUT WITHOUT HELP!

YOU... DO WANTA GET OUTTA THIS, DON'TCHA?

WELL, CERTAINLY! O-OF COURSE I DO!

LET ME THINK. PERHAPS YOU'D BETTER TELL ME ABOUT YOURSELF, EVERYTHING YOU'VE EXPERIENCED, NO MATTER HOW PUZZLING OR SEEMINGLY INSIGNIFICANT.

I'LL NEED TO KNOW WHAT I...WE...HAVE TO WORK WITH!

MORNING IS ANOTHER WORK DAY BEGINS FOR--

CLARK--

--KENT?!

BUT WHY ARE YOU *HERE*? BLAST, EPSTEIN MUST'VE FORGOTTEN TO *PAGE* YOU!

GET OVER TO STAR LABS, STAT! LOIS IS ALREADY ON SITE.

THEY'VE GOT A *RADIATION* LEAK THAT COULD LIGHT UP THIS CITY!

ZARN TO SO CHIEF, IT'S AMAZING WHAT A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP WILL DO

S.T.A.R

NUTS! CAN'T GET ANY GOOD SHOTS FROM THIS ANGLE! COME ON, CARLOS LET'S TRY OVER--

GLAD I GOT THAT SLEEP.

SOUNDS LIKE IT COULD BE THE LAST I GET FOR SOME TIME..

--SUPER-MAN?

CARLOS, GET THAT!

JAKE GET THAT!

WHO--?

JIMMY?

OH, H, OS!

COVERING THE STORY FOR WGBS, HUH? I GUESS THAT MAKES US, UM...

YEAH RIVALS!

I'VE BEEN TO S.T.A.R ENOUGH TIMES TO KNOW WHERE THEIR RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS ARE KEPT.

BUT HOW COULD SOMEONE BE CARELESS ENOUGH TO LEAVE AN ISOTOPE CONTAINER OUT IN THE OPEN LIKE THAT?

DON'T WORRY SUPERMAN. THE RADIATION WILL CEASE TO POSE A HAZARD--

--ONCE WE'VE ABSORBED T.

PARASITE?!

WE NEEDED TO LURE YOU HERE, SO WE CREATED A MENACE ONLY YOU COULD SAFELY HANDLE.

BUT NOW THAT YOU'VE ARRIVED THERE'S NO FURTHER NEED FOR--

--SUBTLETY!

PARASITE'S CHANGED! HIS SPEECH PATTERN'S DIFFERENT.

AND THE OLD PARASITE WOULDN'T HAVE KNOWN THE MEANING OF 'SUBTLETY'!

IF PARASITE NOW HAS BRAINS TO GO WITH HIS STRENGTH--!

I'D BETTER END THIS FAST!

HE GRABBED THAT MACHINE MADAR! AND I BARELY DODGED IN TIME!

THEY'RE IN CONTROL NOW. AN YA ALREADY KNOW WHAT YA GOTTA DO

YES - I SUPPOSE I DO

I DON'T KNOW THIS BODY YET, WHAT IT CAN DO! YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME!

ANOTHER SURPRISE! HE'S--

--RUNNING AWAY?

--WE'LL RETURN *LIVE* AS EVENTS WARRANT THIS IS *JIMMY OLSEN*, WGBS NEWS.

NICE WORK, JIMMY

THANKS, LOIS. SAY..

OH, RIGHT WE'RE *COMPETITORS* NOW. I FORGOT

SORRY.

...WHAT'S *YOUR* TAKE ON THE SUPERMAN ANGLE?

WELL, UH...UM..

YEAH. ME, TOO

IF PARASITE TOUCHES ME, HE COULD DRAIN MY *LIFE ENERGY* AS EASILY AS HE ABSORBED RADIATION FROM THAT *ISOTOPE!*

BUT THIS REINFORCED SUPPORT TUBING--

--SHOULD KEEP HIM AT A HEALTHY DISTANCE!

ON THE OTHER HAND, IT DOES NOTHING TO EXPLAIN--

--THAT!

THE PARASITE, WORKING A COMPUTER?

IN THE PAST HE'D HAVE TROUBLE WORKING A DOOR-KNOB!

TAK! TAKA-TAK!

SRATCH!

KACHAM!

VRZZAK!

:argk!: LAB MACHINES EXPLODING!

PARASITE HAS ABSORBED KNOWLEDGE BEFORE--

ZZARRK!

SPLAK!

SOMETHING'S VERY DIFFERENT..

SOMEHOW, PARASITE KNEW ENOUGH ABOUT OPERATIONS HERE TO OVERLOAD THE EQUIPMENT!

COULD IT BE SOMETHING --OR SOMEONE-- HE ATE?

--BUT HE'S NEVER BEEN ABLE TO USE IT.

...AND VERY DANGEROUS!

THAT HOLE IN THE FLOOR--PARASITES ON THE RUN AGAIN. BUT WHY?

IF HE'S SMART ENOUGH TO BE A LEGITIMATE THREAT, WHY DOES HE STILL ACT--

--LIKE HE'S AFRAID OF ME?

I'M AFRAID WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO GO IN!

GET THOSE BATTLESUITS UNLOADED AND ON-LINE. THE SPECIAL CRIMES UNIT SHALL PAID TA BE SPECTATORS.

I KNOW DEALIN WITH RADIATION CAN BE SCARY, BUT--

PERHAPS WE CAN BE OF SERVICE.

SCU

MY NAME'S COMSTOCK, SECTION LEADER FOR--

--THE CENTURIONS!

THAT'S FUNNY. YA LOOK A LOT LIKE TEAM LUTHOR TA ME!

THAT WAS OUR EARLIER DESIGNATION.

BUT LEXCORP HAS A NEW C.E.O., AND SHE FELT "CENTURIONS" WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE.

HOW MAY WE HELP?

BY STAYIN' OUTTA THE WAY!

THE S.C.U. CAN HANDLE THINGS JUST FINE! AN' IF WE'RE LUCKY, BIG BLUE'LL BE ABLE TA TAKE CARE O' BUSINESS--

"--ON HIS OWN!"

TRAIL OF DESTRUCTION LEADS TO THE CRYOGENICS LAB! AND--

--THERE HE IS!

THE BASEMENT! NOWHERE ELSE TO GO!

BUT I HAVE TO ESCAPE! HAVE TO GET--

--OUT!

KRANCH

AGGH! C-C-COLD!

MY ARM-- F-FROZEN! CAN'T MOVE IT!

IN HIS PANIC, HE PUNCHED THROUGH TO A SUBZERO CHAMBER! THAT'S IT!

IF I PUSH ALL OF HIM IN, HE'LL BE QUICK-FROZEN! IMMOBILIZED!

I'LL FLY IN FAST, KNOCK HIM INTO THE CHAMBER BEFORE HE CAN GRAB ME AND--

--hmh? I-I'M SLOWING DOWN! LOSING MOMENTUM--!

IT WORKED!

YES, WHEN YOU FOUGHT SUPERBOY, A CAR THROWN AT YOU LOST SPEED AND DROPPED! *

I NEVER FOUGHT SUPERBOY--!

* IN SUPERBOY #6.

WHO'S HE TALKING TO?!

YOU OBVIOUSLY HAVE THE POWER TO ABSORB THE *INERTIA* OF OBJECTS IN MOTION!

PRETTY SHARP, DOC!

SO WE FEIGNED *FEAR* TO LURE SUPERMAN HERE, PRESENTING HIM WITH THE FREEZE CHAMBER AS AN *OBVIOUS* SOLUTION!

WHEN HE GOT CLOSE ENOUGH, THINKING HIS *SPEED* WOULD PROTECT HIM, WE *STRUCK!*

G-GETTING *WEAK*... ENERGY D-DRAINING *AWAY!*

WE'RE SORRY, SUPERMAN. WE--I, BLAST IT!--I AM NOT A BAD MAN!

BUT I NEED YOUR POWER! PLEASE UNDERSTAND! I HAVE TO GET MY *LIFE* BACK! EVEN IF THAT MEANS...

...TAKING *YOURS!*

DON'T MISS MAN OF STEEL #50! ON SALE NEXT WEEK!